

NEWS RELEASE

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FALCON Delivers Emergency Alerts in Real Time

(City of South Fulton, GA – July 2, 2020) The summer heat combined with a fast-moving thunderstorm can quickly turn into a flash flooding emergency or create road closures that no one wants to experience. City of South Fulton residents can prepare early before severe weather strikes with emergency alerts delivered right to their cell phones with Fulton County's FALCON program.

Operated by Fulton County's Emergency Management and Fulton County Emergency Services, FALCON (Fulton Alert Community Notification) replaced CODE RED earlier this year. The system allows residents to receive alerts via text message, e-mail or on a landline phone. Those messages contain the latest details on notifications about severe weather warnings, public health emergencies or active shooter situations.

"When an emergency happens, people need information fast to ensure their safety," said Mayor William "Bill" Edwards. "We are proud to work with Fulton County emergency management officials to provide those precious moments people need to prepare for an emergency or start recovery from one."

The new notification system powered by Everbridge Disaster Alert System will not only announce emergencies, but also provide safety instructions for users. FALCON will deliver critical alerts for emergency events such as gas leaks, missing or endangered persons, traffic disturbances or unexpected road closures.

"Everyone enrolled in the FALCON system will automatically receive notifications regarding severe weather warnings such as severe thunderstorm warnings, tornado warnings and flash flood warnings." said Matthew Kallmyer, director of the Atlanta-Fulton County Emergency Management Agency.

"However, users will be able to customize their profiles to select what other types of notifications they want to receive," Kallmyer added. "This includes being notified about events such as high wind or winter weather advisories."

Those who used CODE Red in the past are encouraged to register and create a profile to receive FALCON alerts as soon as they happen. Enroll today on the <u>city's website</u> or on the <u>Fulton County Government website</u>. ###